

APPLICANT(S): FEINER, David
SERIAL NO.: 09/982,985
FILED: October 22, 2001
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (**Currently Amended**) The apparatus of claim 3 ~~4~~, wherein at least one of said guides is movable so as to vary a distance between said movable guide and another of said guides.
3. (**Currently Amended**) An [[The]] apparatus of claim 1, further comprising for flattening a substrate against a surface of a platform, said apparatus comprising:

one or more left-sided guides positionable with respect to said platform, each having a generally flat, top left protrusion positioned generally parallel to said surface ;

one or more right-sided guides positionable with respect to said platform, each having a generally flat, top right protrusion positioned generally parallel to said surface; and

one or more z-motion units, each coupled to a respective one of said guides, able to move said guides in a direction perpendicular to said surface,

wherein at least one of said guides is movable in a direction perpendicular to said surface so that its respective protrusion is positionable above, below or at said surface and when said substrate is on said platform one of said left-sided guides and one of said right-sided guides are positionable so that their respective protrusions lie above said substrate.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a movement controller coupled to said z-motion units.
5. (Cancelled)
6. **(Currently Amended)** A printing system comprising:
 - at least one print head; and
 - an apparatus for flattening a substrate against a surface of a platform, said apparatus comprising:
 - one or more left-sided guides positionable with respect to said table, each having a generally flat, top left protrusion positioned generally parallel to said surface; [[and]]
 - one or more right-sided guides positionable with respect to said table, each having a generally flat, top right protrusion positioned generally parallel to said surface; and
 - one or more z-motion units, each coupled to a respective one of said guides, able to move said guides in a direction perpendicular to said surface,
 - wherein at least one of said guides is movable in a direction perpendicular to said surface so that its respective protrusion is positionable above, below or at said surface and when said substrate is on said platform one of said left-sided guides and one of said right guides are positionable so that their respective protrusions lie on said substrate so that said at least one print head is able to move in close proximity to said substrate without coming in contact with said substrate or said guides.
7. (Original) An apparatus for flattening a first edge and a second, opposite edge of a substrate having a lower face substantially in contact with a surface of a platform, the apparatus comprising:
 - one or more first guides positionable within said platform, each first guide having a first L-shaped cross-section such that if said first guide is positioned so as to protrude above said surface, a portion of said first guide

generally parallel to said lower face abuts a strip of an upper face of said substrate along all or part of said first edge and a portion of said first guide generally perpendicular to said lower face abuts all or part of said first edge; and

one or more second guides positionable within said platform, each second guide having a second L-shaped cross-section such that if said second guide is positioned so as to protrude above said surface, a portion of said second guide generally parallel to said lower face abuts a strip of an upper face of said substrate along all or part of said second edge and a portion of said second guide generally perpendicular to said lower face abuts all or part of said second edge,

wherein a distance between said first edge and said second edge determines whether to position any of said guides so that they do not protrude above said surface and determines which one of said first guides and which one of said second guides are selected to abut said first edge and second edge respectively.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein at least one of said guides is movable in a direction parallel to said surface and perpendicular to said first edge.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising one or more z-motion units, each coupled to a respective one of said guides, able to move said guides in a direction perpendicular to said surface.
10. (Original) An apparatus for flattening a first edge and a second, opposite edge of a substrate having a lower face substantially in contact with a surface of a platform, the apparatus comprising:
 - a first guide having a first L-shaped cross-section and positionable within said platform so that a portion of said first guide generally parallel to said lower face abuts a strip of an upper face of said substrate along all or part of said first

APPLICANT(S): FEINER, David
SERIAL NO.: 09/982,985
FILED: October 22, 2001
Page 5

edge and a portion of said first guide generally perpendicular to said lower face abuts all or part of said first edge;

two or more openings within said platform that are generally parallel to said first edge and said second edge; and

a second guide having a second L-shaped cross-section and positionable within said platform so that a portion of said second guide generally parallel to said lower face abuts a strip of said upper face along all or part of said second edge and a portion of said second guide generally perpendicular to said lower face abuts all or part of said second edge,

wherein a distance between said first edge and said second edge determines in which of said two or more grooves to position said second guide.

11. - 14. (Cancelled)